**Staff shortage in Vividh Bharati Jammu Service**

840. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI J. CHITHARANIAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Indian Express dated May 20, 2000 under the caption Vividh Bharati Jammu Service out of tune due to acute staff shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken to increase the staff strength at this station; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have reported that one Announcer has been transferred alongwith post from AIR, Kathua to recently commissioned, Commercial Broadcasting Service, Radio Kashmir Jammu to manage the service. Station Director, AIR, Jammu has also been instructed to to make working arrangement to run CBS, Radio Kashmir Jummu till regular arrangements are made.

**Privatisation of AIR**

†841. PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:
SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to privatize All India Radio;

(b) if so, the reasons behind privatizing such a sensitive agency like All India Radio; and

(c) if not, the reaction and decision of Government with regard to the newsitem published in the Hindustan, dated 2nd June, 2000 with regard to radio transmission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.